

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE REQUESTED FILING OF RULE 1.53(B)  
CONTINUATION PATENT APPLICATION BASED ON  
THE FOLLOWING PENDING PRIOR PATENT APPLICATION:

In re Application of: Paul Re et al.  
Serial No.: 10/261,899  
Filing Date: 10/01/2002  
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR THE REPAIR OF  
ARTICULAR CARTILAGE DEFECTS  
Group Art Unit: 3731  
Examiner: Gary Jackson  
Attorney's Docket No.: SCAN-1

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 1, line 4, please insert the following reference to related application:

-- Reference To Pending Prior Patent Application

This is a continuation of pending prior U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/261,899, filed 10/01/02 by Paul Re et al. for APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR THE REPAIR OF ARTICULAR CARTILAGE DEFECTS. --